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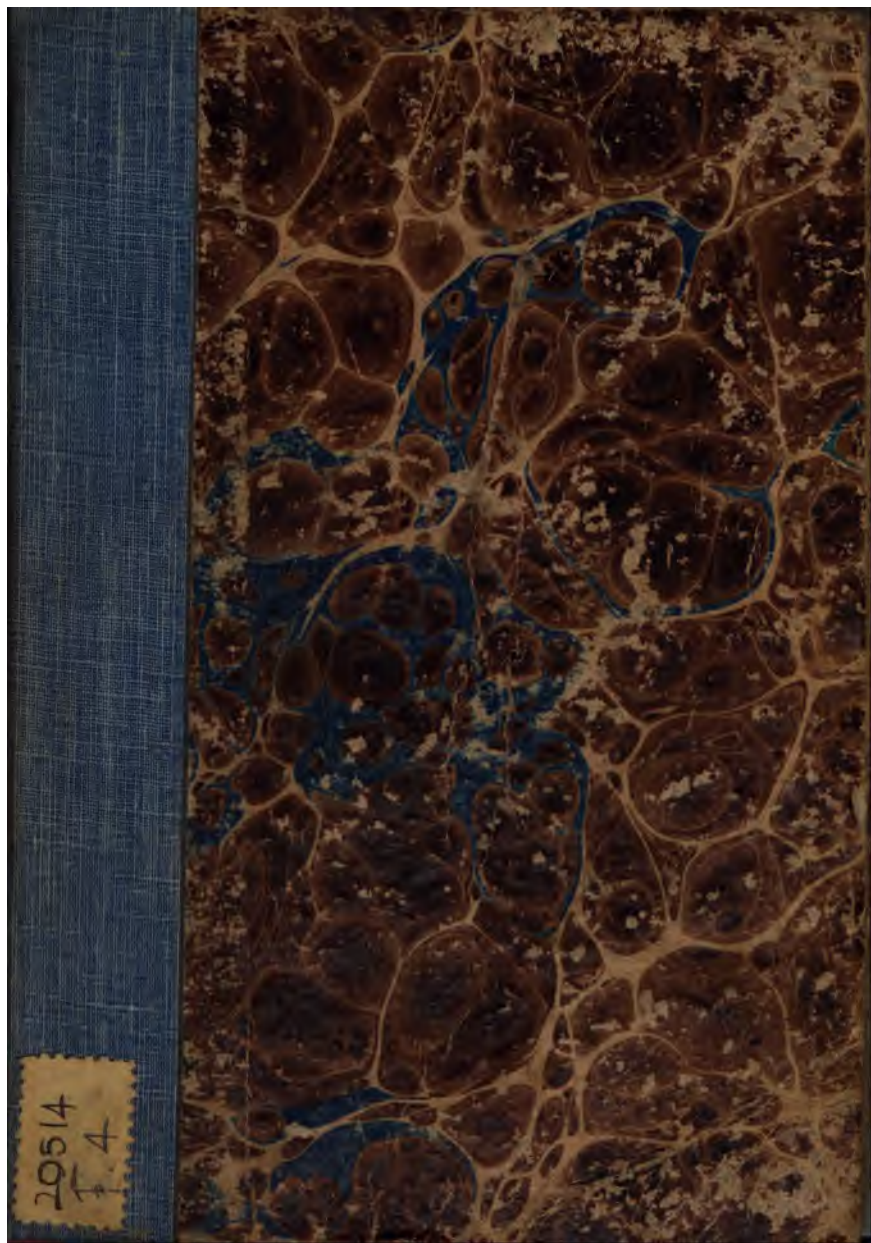
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Bt. from Ellis

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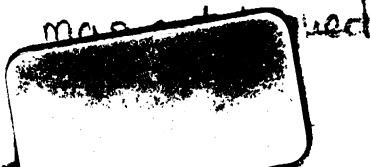
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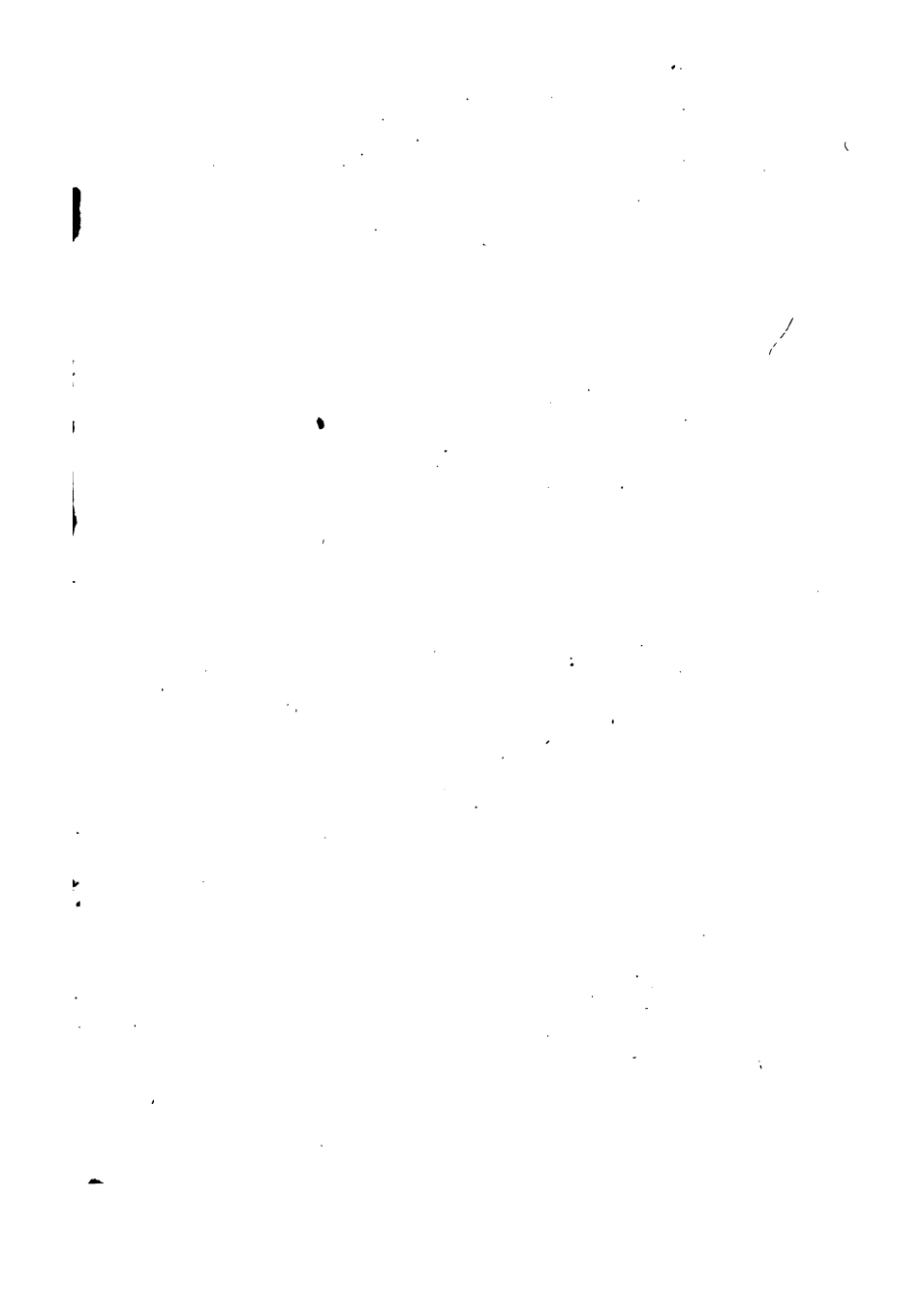
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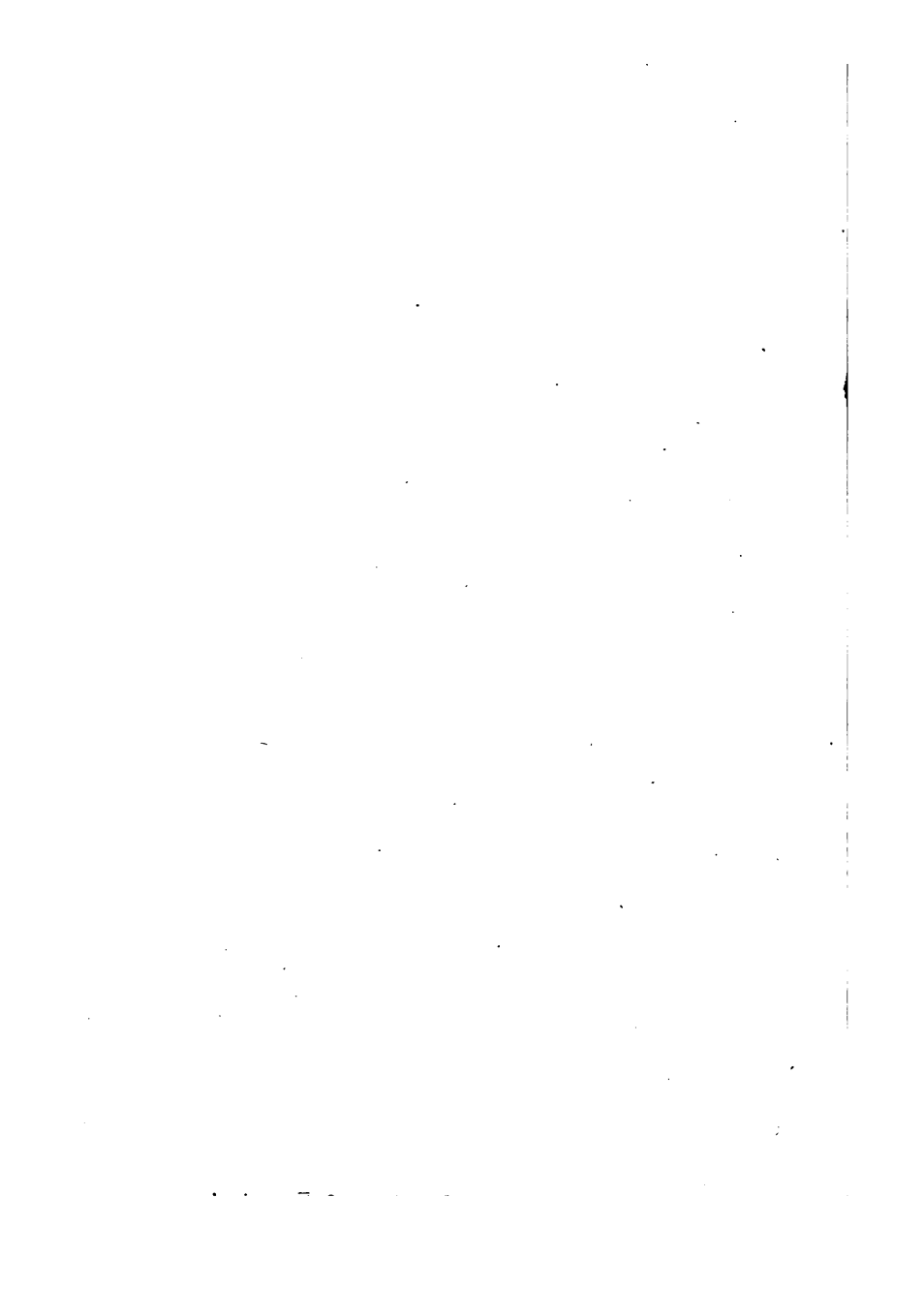
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THE
HISTORICAL GUIDE
TO THE
ISLAND OF MALTA
AND
ITS DEPENDENCIES.

DEDICATED TO
MR. HENRY PONSONBY.

BY GIUSEPPE PERICCIUOLI BORZESI
OF SIENA.

MALTA:
PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRESS,

1830.

To the Noble young Gentleman,

MR. HENRY PONSONBY,

Sir,

I am happy in being permitted the favour of dedicating to you, the "Historical Guide to Malta and its Dependencies."

I have been encouraged in the preparation of this little work, by the hope that it may afford you some beneficial entertainment now in your first years; and that hereafter it may be an introduction to a more mature examination of the subjects of which it treats.

I have subjoined to the "Guide," some reflections respecting the ancient appellation of this celebrated land, and some important events that have taken place in relation to it. And I hope you will see the time, when you will find satisfaction in the examination of a question of antiquity, such as the author humbly believes not unworthy of your illustrious origin, and the country from which you have originated.

I shall be highly gratified with your favourable acceptance of this small effort of mine; and beg permission to subscribe myself with all respect,

Malta }
8th March 1830. }



Your most humble
devoted and obedient servant
GIUSEPPE PERICCIUOLI BORZESI.

Al Nobil Giovanetto

SIGNOR ENRICO PONSONBY,

Signorino,

Io consacro a lei, Signorino, la "Guida Istorica di Malta, e sue Dipendenze."

Ho scritto questa operetta sulla veduta che possa esserle di una qualche utilità nella prima sua giovinezza, e che più tardi le sia di scorta ad uno studio più profondo dell'istoria dell'isola, e ad un più maturo esame degli oggetti che vi si trovano.

Ho aggiunto alla "Guida" alcune riflessioni intorno all'antico nome, e vicende di questa celebre terra. Spero che sapranno esse un giorno solleticarla ad occuparsi di una questione *istorico-geografo-archeologica*, che io credo non indegna di lei, nè della illustre nascita sua.

Sarò sempre però assai soddisfatto, se ella gradirà questa mia piccolissima offerta, e se mi permetterà che con tutto il rispetto mi dichiari quale mi pregio di essere

di lei Signorino

Malta gli 8 Marzo 1830.

Umilismo. Divotismo. ed Ubbidientmo. Servitore

GIUSEPPE PERICCIUOLI BORZESI.



map catalogued.

MARE



HISTORICAL GUIDE

&c. &c. &c.

PART I.

Geographical Description of the Island of Malta.

THE Island of Malta is situated near the middle of the Mediterranean sea; south of Sicily, between Pacchino called also Cape Passaro, and Camarena, anciently called Camerina.

On the North it is opposite Pozzallo, on the coast of Sicily; on the South, Tripoli, on the coast of Africa; on the East, the Island of Candia, and on the west, the Island of Gozo.

Malta is distant from Sicily, in the nearest direction, sixty Italian miles.*

(*) 12 Italian miles are equal to almost 11 English.

Its circumference is sixty miles; its greatest length twenty miles, and its greatest breadth twelve.

The centre of Malta is in longitude fourteen degrees and twelve minutes East from London, and in latitude thirty five degrees and fifty minutes North.

The longest day in this island is fourteen hours, fifty-two minutes and a half.

The Island of Malta contains two principal cities, viz: *Valletta*, and *Città Vecchia*, called also *Città Notabile*.

The city *Valletta* is fourteen degrees nineteen minutes and twenty-eight seconds east of the meridian of Paris in France.

Città Vecchia (the ancient city) is situated near the centre of the Island. It was founded two thousand years after the universal deluge, six or seven hundred years before Christ.

Valletta, which is now the capital of the island, and the seat of government, lies between the *Great Harbour* (called also *Marsa*

i. e. *Harbour*) and *Marsamuscetto* commonly called the *Quarantine Harbour*. The site on which the city stands was formerly called *Sceb-er-ras*, which in the Arabic language signifies a place which *rises above* the surrounding parts. The Grand Master La Valletta, from whom the city received its name, commenced the building of the city in the year 1556 of the Christian era; and after his death the work was continued by his successor Pietro di Monte. On the 18th of May, 1571, the city was entirely completed.

Within the suburbs of Valletta, on the opposite side of the Great Harbour, are the towns of *Borgo*, called also *Vittoriosa*; *Isola*, or *Senglea*; and *Burmula*, called also *Cospicua*; and on the neck of land on which Valletta stands is a considerable town called *Floriana* or *Borgo Vilhena*. The three former of these are also generally denominated *cities*.

Scattered in various parts of the island are twenty-two other villages called *Casals*.

These are

Casal Dingly	Casal Crendi✓
„ Mosta	„ Zorrico✓
„ Nasciar✓	„ Chercop✓
„ Gargur	„ Gudia.
„ Attard✓	„ Micabiba
„ Zebbug✓	„ Luca✓
„ Balzan✓	„ Tarcien✓
„ Lia✓	„ Zabbar✓
„ Birchircara✓	„ Zeitun✓
„ Curmi✓	„ Asciach✓
„ Siggevi✓	„ Safi.✓

The population of the island and its dependencies is estimated at about one hundred and twenty thousand souls.

The Sovereign of the Island of Malta and its dependencies, is His Majesty GEORGE THE FOURTH, by the Grace of God King of Great Britain and Ireland.

*Chronological Sketch of the History of
Malta.*

I. OF THE PHÆACIANS.

Homer mentions that the first inhabitants of the Island of Malta were Phæacians, who were said to be of the race of the giants. Their chief was Eurimedon, and the island was then called *Hyperia*. The grandson of Eurimedon, (as this fabulous author would have us believe), having revolted from his master Jupiter, was instantly struck dead for his rebellion, and the people belonging to him being forced to leave *Hyperia*, took up a residence in Corfu.

To those who indulge any belief in the ancient stories of men of enormous size, the ruins of a sort of edifice in the Island of Gozo, may afford the semblance of proof of these heathen reports.

II. THE PHŒNICIANS.

In the year 1519 before the Christian era, a body of Phœnicians entered the har-

bour of Hyperia with their ships. The situation of the island afforded them the most advantageous opportunity of extending their commerce; and they accordingly made themselves masters of it, and planted a colony, which very soon became numerous and powerful.

The Phœnicians brought with them the worship of their gods; and changed the name Hyperia into that of *Ogygia*. Under the Phœnicians the island became wealthy, and the population numerous.

Ogygia was governed by kings; and when Dido went and founded Carthage on the coast of Africa, she stopped at *Ogygia*, where she was received by Batto, the king of the island, and by the inhabitants, with all the marks of the most sincere attachment.

It is mentioned that numerous ships of Phœnicians leaving the port of *Ogygia*, fell in with the ships of Ulysses at the straits of Scylla and Carybdis, shattered with a tempest, which they had encountered on endea-

vouring to pass that dangerous place; and that the Phœnicians, moved with compassion for the misfortune and distress of that Hero, brought him to Ogygia; and that in this island, in a grotto now called *Melleha* he met with the nymph or goddess Calypso, with whom he is said to have passed seven years most pleasantly.

III. THE GREEKS.

In the year 736 before the Christian era, the Greeks came and took possession of the island of Ogygia, drove out the Phœnicians, and changed its name to *Melita*, perhaps on account of the excellent honey which the island produces; or perhaps more probably in honour of a fabled nymph, daughter of Doris and Nereas.

The Greeks, according to their custom, brought to Melita their accustomed worship of Apollo; erected a magnificent temple in honor of that deity, created a high priest by

the name of Xerottistès, and appointed rulers whom they called Arconti.

The commerce which the Phœnicians had established in the island, flourished also under the government of the Greeks.

The Melitesians were employed in making cloth and stuffs of cotton, which were noticed for their superior fineness.

While the Greeks held possession of the island, they maintained a constant correspondence with the people of Sicily and Italy. They borrowed from the inhabitants of Syracuse the worship of the goddess Proserpine; and acquired the friendship of Phalarides emperor of Agrigenti, which was to the Greeks a source of great advantage.

IV. THE CARTHAGENIANS.

Five hundred and twenty eight years before the Christian era, the Carthagenians contended with the Greeks for the possession of Melita. For some time it was divi-

ded between them; but eventually the Greeks were compelled to yield it entirely to their enemies. The Greeks however, still remained in the island, and preserved the worship of their gods.

During this period the Greek and Punic languages were much used, and became in a measure the languages of the island.

Inghirami of Volterra, in his history, mentions that while the Carthagenians resided at Melita, the Tuscans entered the harbour with a numerous fleet, and made themselves possessors of the island; but they were soon obliged to abandon it again to the Carthagenians, being called away to quell disturbances which were rising in their own country.

No other author, to the knowledge of the writer, has mentioned this attempt and defeat of the Tuscans.

Under the dominion of the Carthagenians, the Island Melita became still more flourishing than under that of the preceding

nations who had occupied it. And its prosperity, together with the importance of its situation, rendered it an object for the ambition of the Romans. The Consul Attilius at one time plundered it, and at another Cornelius took possession of it; but the Romans lost it very soon, and did not regain it until after the famous victory gained by the consul Lutatius in the year of the world 3763. The authority of the Romans was not, however, established entirely until the commencement of the second Punic war by Titus Sempronius.

V. THE ROMANS.

The Romans changed the name Melita, into *Melitas*.

They were too desirous of command in the Mediterranean, not to be sensible of how great importance to them would be the acquisition of this island. They drove out the Carthagenians, and wishing to retain

the friendship of the Greeks who constituted a considerable part of the population of the island, authorised the use of their ancient customs, gave them the title of a *municipium*, and permitted the inhabitants to be governed by their own laws. They encouraged their commerce, and their manufactures which had been practised for a long time.

The cotton cloth which they then made, was in so high repute, that it was purchased at Rome at a high price, as an article of luxury.

The Romans, either from religious considerations, or for other reasons, rebuilt and adorned the churches for which Melitas was famous, and to visit which had been an object with navigators and merchants, where they offered their incense to the gods, who were supposed to protect the island and its commerce.

SHIPWRECK OF ST. PAUL.

About the year fifty-six of the Christian era, St. Paul, who was a prisoner at Cesarea, was sent by the magistrate of that province, to Rome. The vessel in which he was embarked was driven by a dreadful tempest to Melitas, and the vessel was broken against the rocks of the harbour which has from this occurrence received the name of the Apostle. Publius, who, under the title of *Protos*, was possessed of great authority, together with the inhabitants of the island, took care of the holy man after his shipwreck, and their hospitality was rewarded by receiving through their guest the truths of the Christian religion. St. Paul performed many miracles in the name of Christ, healed many that were diseased, and being himself bitten by a viper, was miraculously preserved from feeling any ill effect from the wound.

The inhabitants of Casal Nasciar claim the honor of having first received baptism.

St. Paul passed three months in Malta, and afterwards embarked for Syracuse.

On the division of the Roman empire after Constantine, Melitas fell to Constant. Religious controversies having afterwards disturbed almost the whole of Europe, swarms of barbarians came from the north, who united together and devastated the most beautiful provinces.

VI. THE VANDALS.

In the year A. D. 454, the Vandals possessed themselves of Sicily, and shortly after of Melitas. They kept possession of the island until 464, a period of ten years.

VII. THE GOTHs.

In the year 464, aforesaid, the Goths exterminated the Vandals, and the island then passed from the hands of barbarians to others still more barbarous. Under such protection, Melitas lost the prosperity of its commerce, and the advantages it had so long enjoyed; and was indebted for a pros-

perous turn only to its advantageous situation, which was the cause of its changing owners.

VIII. EMPIRE OF THE EAST.

In the year 533 Belisarius, a commander of the army of the Emperor Justinian, came to Melitas, expelled the Goths, and united it again to the empire. The island now acquired anew its riches; but as its privileges were not secured to it by the commanders of Constantinople, it never after recovered its ancient splendor.

Many of the Greeks who came with Belisarius remained in the island; some appointed to govern and defend it, and others to engage in its commerce. These became odious to the natives, through their pride and avarice, to such an extent that they were at last driven to the extreme of desperation and misery, and were compelled to submit to the dominion of

IX. THE ARABS.

In the year 870, the Arabs entered St. Paul's Bay. The Greeks in vain attempted to oppose their landing, and were beaten and forced to retreat to Città Notabile, the capital of the island. The Arabs advanced and encamped near the city. They endeavoured to take it by assault, but were repelled. The inhabitants, however, shortly after capitulated, and being encouraged by the Arabs, committed three thousand Greeks who were found within the walls, to the flames.

The Arabs entered the city not as enemies, but as brothers.

X. SECOND DOMINION OF THE GREEKS.

In the course of this same year, a body of Greeks came from Syracuse, and recovered the island, which they retained until the year 904 of the Christian era.

XI. SECOND DOMINION OF THE ARABS.

In the year 904, the Arabs again conquered the Island of Melitas, slew all the Greeks, and divided their possessions between them. The natives were treated with the same humanity and kindness as they were when the Arabs possessed the island before, and purchased the wives and children of the Greeks that were slain.

An Emir dependent on the Emir who resided in Sicily, was governor of the island, and the government of the Arabs was no injury or inconvenience to the natives.

XII. THE NORMANS.

In the year 1090 Count Roger, or, as some say his brother, assisted by the inhabitants of one of the villages called Nyede Rum, besieged the Arabs in the capital of the island, and forced them to capitulate. The terms of this capitulation were as follows:

“ That the Emir should leave the island, and go where he chose.

“ That all who wished, might accompany him.

“ That those who desired to remain in the island, should have the free exercise of their religion, by paying to the ruler an annual tribute.

“ That all the Christians who were found slaves to the Arabs, should be restored to liberty.”

All these terms of agreement were scrupulously observed, and the Christian slaves went with the Count to Sicily.

The Arabs who remained in *Malta*, (by which name we will hereafter call the island) cherished the hope that some fortunate event would make them again masters of the island, and they took up their residence in a retired part of the island, called *Kalna ta Bahria*.

In the year 1120, on the day of a festa, the Arabs made an effort to surprise the

leaders of the island, while engaged in the worship of the gods; but their attempt failed, and a son of Count Ruggero, or Roger, came from Sicily and banished them entirely from the island.

Under the Normans, Malta acquired certain titles and privileges: It was erected into a marquisate, and afterwards into a countship; but it lost the riches which had been acquired with so much diligence under the preceding governments.

The Princess Constance, heiress to the throne of Sicily, having married to Henry VI, son of the Emperor Frederick II, in 1226, sent hither the unhappy inhabitants of Cevalano in the kingdom of Naples, which the Emperor had conquered,

XIII. THE FRENCH.

Sicily having passed under the dominion of Carlo of the house of Anjou, the island of Malta consequently, being accus-

tomed to follow the lot of those who were its neighbours, came also under his authority.

The famous Sicilian Vespers * caused a revolution in Sicily, and changed the government. The Maltese, however, remained faithful to the French, and are not disgraced with the guilt of this horrid transaction; although John de Procido had arranged the same manœuvre at Malta.

XIV. THE ARAGONESE.

Two years had scarcely elapsed from the time that Sicily changed its owners, when Ruggero the Aragonian Admiral, came and attacked the French fleet at Malta commanded by Comelius. The battle was bloody and obstinate; and the death of the French commander, decided the victory in favour of the Aragonese. They disembarked in the har-

* This was a stroke at evening, from the bells, which was a concerted signal for taking the lives of the French who were found in Sicily.

bour of Marsamuscetto, and as the inhabitants were not in a state to resist them, they yielded to their invaders at discretion, and were obliged to provide for their conquerors, a large quantity of provisions, and a considerable sum of money. The fort now called the Castle of St. Angelo held out awhile, but after a few months was compelled to surrender; and so the whole island came under the dominion of

XV. THE SPANIARDS.

Malta, under the government of the Aragonese and of the king of Castile who succeeded them, was given by favour, to a natural son of that sovereign, or some favourite of his.

The troubles he underwent were very great, and he was eventually obliged to mortgage the island to Don Antony Cordova, and afterward to Don Gonsalvo Monroi, for the sum of 30,000 florins. The Maltese were

obliged to pay this sum themselves, and king Alphonso then promised, that in future the island of Malta should be for ever united to the kingdom of Sicily.

XVI. CHARLES V.

In the year 1516 Charles V. came into possession of the entire kingdom of Sicily, to which belonged also the islands of Malta and Gozo; and in the year 1530, he gave them to the knights of the order of St. John of Jerusalem.

Under the dominion of Charles V, the island neither lost the advantages it possessed under its former governments, nor acquired any new.

XVII. ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.

On the 23rd March 1530, Charles V. presented these islands by a charter, to the order of St. John of Jerusalem, as a gift; and

the council of the order accepted of them by a manifesto bearing date of 22nd April of the same year.

On the 13th day of November succeeding, the Grand Master of the Order took formal possession and established himself in the village now called La Vittoriosa.

Soon after the establishment of the government of this order, the island was attacked by the Pasha Mustapha, a general of Solyman II, with a numerous armament.

But the Grand Master La Valletta, although he had but few men at command, resisted, notwithstanding, and conquered a ferocious enemy.

La Valletta, as has been before mentioned, commenced the building of the city which bears his name.

Under the government of the knights of St. John, were built most of the public edifices now existing, and nearly all the fortifications, which render this capital and its suburbs impregnable.

XVIII. THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

The commander of the army of the Republic of France, sent into Egypt in the year 1798, was too wise and sagacious not to see of how much value would be the acquisition of the island of Malta. He was well skilled in the arts he must use to get the better of those who at that time possessed it; and through his intrigue it was given up to him without the least opposition.

In the same year the country of Malta and Gozo raised such a revolt against the French, that they were obliged to shut themselves up in Valletta and the forts.

XIX. GREAT BRITAIN.

In the year 1800, the French being vigorously besieged by the British, ceded the city with its fortifications to them.

His Britannic Majesty two years after, declared the port of Malta, *i. e.* of Valletta, a free port.

In the year 1814, agreeably to the resolution of the congress of Vienna, the islands of Malta, Gozo and Comino, were consigned for ever, to the dominion of Great Britain, a power capable above all other powers, to secure to these islands the most substantial and durable prosperity.

In commemoration of an event of so much importance, a learned native of the island composed the following inscription, which is engraved over the entrance to the main-guard in front of the governor's palace:

Magnæ et Invictæ Britanniae

Melitensium Amor

et

Europæ vox

Has insulas confirmat

A. D. 1814.

HISTORICAL GUIDE

&c. &c. &c.

PART II.

Disembarking at the Barriera.

THE passenger, on disembarking in the Great Harbour, lands at the mole, from whence we will conduct him to the places that merit (as we conceive) most attention. The first object that meets his observation on landing, is a commodious well-built lodge, in which is the Health Office and that of the Marine Police. In the former of these offices, the passport is deposited, which is afterwards taken to the office of the Inspector General of Police, situated in Strada Mercanti No. 15, in the Palace called the Castellania; which we shall speak of in its proper place.

Over the door of the abovementioned lodge, is this inscription, "*Hæc fecit populum Amor.*"

Before the lodge is a palisade with its divisions at proportioned distances, to keep separate, the passengers and sailors, of such vessels as are to be admitted to pratique, while conversing with those from other vessels, or with persons from on shore. This is called

XX. THE BARRIERA.

Walking along the mole, a range of fine warehouses are seen opposite the Barriera, at the middle of which is a small chapel, built by order of the Grand Master Perellos, for the use of mariners and persons in quarantine, and dedicated to Ssmo. Salvatore. The inscription over the door of the church, merits some attention.

Continuing the walk towards the city Valletta, now the capital of the island, in a plain somewhat raised, is situated a beautiful

XXI. FOUNTAIN,

the work of Giovanni Bologna, a pupil of Michelangelo, in the middle of which is a statue of bronze, representing Neptune, with a trident in the right hand, and in the left the stem of nobility of the Grand Master Alofio Vignacourt; under whose direction it was erected. On the square base of this noble statue, which is of the same metal, are represented in basso-relievo, some exploits of the soldiers of the order of St. John.

A few paces onwards from the fountain, on the left hand, is the church called

XXII. DI LIESSE,

adorned with gifts devoted to the Virgin by persons in affliction, in order to gain her compassion; for this church the people cherish great veneration. The principal picture in this church is by Enrico Arnaud.

Advancing in this street somewhat on an ascent, you arrive at the city gate named,

XXIII. PORTA DI MARE (OF THE SEA-GATE.)

Previous to entering into the city, you see on the left hand side, a long and delightful parterre which leads to a picturesque habitation, built on a rock overhanging the Custom-House.

Over the gate appears this inscription, the motto so dear to the English, "*Dieu et mon droit.*" Opposite the gate is a

XXIV. FOUNTAIN,

over which was an inscription that time has effaced. The first street you enter after leaving the gate, is called

XXV. STRADA LEVANTE,

which although short, is however interesting, on account of its breadth. Near the farther end of this street, and fronting the Piazza di Leoni or Lions' square, is situated

XXVI. THE PAINTING STUDY OF MR. HYZLER, a youth of talents and merit, who has worthily answered the most promising hopes that

were entertained of him from his earliest years. We will not stop to describe the beauties that are to be found in this study, that we may not exceed the limits we have prescribed to ourselves, and because the pieces there exhibited at one time, are liable at another time to be changed, as they are obtained by the admirers of the fine arts, by purchase or by the generosity of their author. In every period, however, the students of painting will here find abundance to gratify and repay their curiosity.

On leaving Mr. Hyzler's study, you may go to the bastion called the

XXVII. BARRACCA, (near the prison.)

This is a most delightful place, overlooking the mouth of the Great Harbour, where ships on entering the same, seem almost to come within reach of the hand. Here is to be observed a monument raised to the memory of the late GOVERNOR BALL, with an appropriate inscription.

Leaving the Barracca on your way to the large square, about which are various hotels, may be seen the

XXVIII. COMMERCIAL ROOMS, OR

(BORZA DI NEGOZianti,)

situated in Strada St. Paolo. On the top of this large edifice is built a tower or observatory, from which may be discovered all vessels that pass the island or enter the ports. The rooms are provided with gazettes and newspapers in the English, Italian and French languages. For permission to enter, however, it is necessary to procure a ticket from one of the society.

From here we pass to the study of design and architecture of Mr. Policino.

The study of this able artist is visited by all foreigners who come to Malta, and every one feels much gratified.

Near the same, are to be sold some beautiful views, not only of the port of Malta and the city Valletta, but also of the giant's tower in Gozo, and Maltese costumes.

From Mr. Policino's Study, we will go to the

XXIX. JESUITS' COLLEGE.

This edifice is now appropriated to the use of the Royal University of the Arts and Sciences ; and the church which is connected with it merits particular attention.

The paintings most worthy of examination are, viz:

The principal one, the work of Baldasare Peruzzi of Siena.

The three paintings at the altar of St. Peter excellently done by the Cav. Calabrese.

All the paintings on the left hand entrance into the church, are worthy of admiration.

Opposite the Jesuits' church, is

XXX. THE MUSEUM OF THE MARQUESS

BARBARO.

Many subjects of natural history and sculpture, render the museum of the Marquess valuable and worthy of attention and

praise; but it is more especially interesting, for the following very valuable pieces:

A cameo in emerald, representing in prospective the head of Philip father of Alexander the Macedonian: a perfect ancient Greek work.

A calcedonian agate, representing in twelve figures the history of Seleucus king of the Locresi, a work of the year 500.

A select collection of shells, not only native, but Egyptian, from Bengal, from the island of San Domingo, and other places.

From this museum you pass to the grand square of St. George, in front of the palace, where the passenger may for a while

REPOSE.

Let us resume, after reposing, our interrupted observations, and the first object that presents itself to our view will be the

XXXI. ROYAL PALACE.

This magnificent edifice serves for the residence of His Excellency the LIEUTENANT

GOVERNOR. It is situated in the middle and on the most beautiful and level part of the city, and occupies a whole square surrounded by four public streets. It has five gates or entrances, and contains numerous elegant apartments, with spacious halls superbly painted, and on three sides is nearly enclosed with covered and open balconies.

The Grand Master Zondadari of Siena adorned it with elegant paintings, and the Grand Master Pinto rendered it more noble by the porticos which he caused to be erected.

An observatory rises on the most conspicuous part of the Palace, where is a signal-man stationed, to observe the vessels of war that pass by or come into port, and to give notice thereof to the Governor.

XXXII. THE ARMORY

also forms a part of this superb palace, provided with from ten to twenty thousand stand of arms arranged in the most perfect order, and in readiness for use.

There are also a great number of ancient arms; and the armour of the Knights of the Order of St. John is still in preservation and deposited here.

XXXIII. PAINTINGS IN THE ROYAL PALACE.

All the paintings in this majestic structure merit the greatest attention. We shall however notice only such as we conceive to be superior.

XXXIV. FIRST, IN THE TAPESTRY ROOM.

This room presents a variety of curious objects and the forms of various animals, of very superior workmanship.

XXXV. IN THE WAITING HALL.

Lot with his two daughters.

Judith with the head of Holofernes.

Lot asleep.

All executed by the Cav. Calabrese and of the same size.

A Shepherd with various animals, by Spagnoletto.

The Martyrdom of St. Catherine, also by the Calabrese.

The much commended painting representing the Grand Master L'Isle Adam taking possession of the Old City or Città Vecchia, by the Cav. Favray.

XXXVI. IN THE ROOM ADJOINING THE GRAND HALL OF ST. MICHAEL AND ST. GEORGE.

A portrait of the Grand Master Vignacourt.—Original of Cavaraggio.

A portrait of the Grand Master Valletta in the act of ordering the defence of the besieged city, by the Cav. Favray.

A portrait of Louis the XVI, by a good pencil of the French school.

XXXVII. IN THE ADJOINING ROOM.

A portrait of the Czar of Muscovy, by an excellent pencil of the school of Pompeo Battoni.

XXXVIII. IN THE NEXT ROOM.

A small painting on copper, a good copy of the Transfiguration by Raphael.

A Landscape.—Original.

A Saint in meditation, by the Cav. Luti.

A portrait of the Grand Chancellor, a work of the School of Guido Reni.

The Virgin with the infant Jesus and another portrait, by..... of the School of Rubens.

XXXIX. IN THE ROOM CALLED THE ROOM
WITH THE BALCONY.

A painting of Colco, representing three sisters, by Paris Bordone.

XL. OVER THE LOOKING GLASS.

A portrait of the Grand Master De Redin.

A Landscape with a mill and a bridge, by Rosa of Tivoli.

Various parts of the palace are ornamented with *bas relief*, representing the exploits of the Order, a fresco, by Matteo da Lecce.

Leaving the Governor's Palace we pass over to see the

XLI. PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The hall containing this Library adjoins the Palace and is spacious and magnificent. The works contained therein are seventeen thousand, consisting of about forty five thousand volumes. In this superb place there are also in preservation the following valuable articles:

Three Phœnician medals or pieces of money.

The first bears the effigy of the goddess Iside, whom the Greeks called Juno.

The second, on one side has the figure of a woman veiled, Iside or Juno, and on the other a sheep's head, the emblem of Jupiter Ammon.

On the third is a head of Serapis, before which is a wand (the emblem of Mercury) and on the opposite side, in the middle, a crown of laurel.

The letters on those three medals (engraved the reverse) are all the same, but have not been as yet distinctly traced.

Two other Phœnician monuments, viz :

A Vase of Terra Cotta of a very singular form, upon which is a Satyr apparently of earth, and upon the border of which certain characters are perceivable, although illegible.

There are also in this Library several Grecian monuments that have been found at different times in the islands of Malta and Gozo. The principal of these are :

A square altar dedicated to Proserpine, which represents men offering a fish to the goddess.

A statue of Hercules of white marble in very good condition. This statue formerly ornamented the Grand Temple near Marsa-scirocco.

A medal of Gozo, designating Castor and Pollux, gods favourable to Mariners.

Also various other medals.

The Punic monuments deposited in this Library are as follows:

Two pieces of marble supposed to have been the pedestals and shafts of two candlesticks, each having the same Phœnician inscription, accompanied by other inscriptions in Greek, a translation of which into the French language by the learned Barthelemi, and which is supposed to be the best translation extant, is as follows:

“ Abdassar et Asseremor, fils d' Asseremor, fils d' Abdassar, avons fait ce vœu à
 “ notre Seigneur Melcrat divinité tutélaire
 “ de Tyr, puisse-t-il les bénir dans leur route
 “ incertaine !

“ Denis et Serapion de la ville de Tyr
 “ tous deux fils de Serapion, à Hercule sur-
 “ nommé Archegetes.”

There also are preserved some Roman monuments worthy of notice; among which are,

A grand sepulcral Lamp of Terra Cotta of a beautiful and curious form.

A round piece of carved marble, the use of which is unknown, representing on one side a griffin with its paw resting on a sheep's head, and on the other a theatrical mask.

Also a monument of the time of the Goths, worthy of admiration, viz :

A little brass figure found some time since at Gozo, representing a lame beggar with the head naked and without beard, sitting in a kind of basket, and supporting himself with the left hand on the ground.

This figure is full of Greek characters, the explanation of which is very embarrassing, and a part of which are entirely undistinguishable.

Leaving the Public Library, on the opposite side you will find another Library called the

XLII. MALTA GARRISON LIBRARY,

which ought not to be overlooked. At the entrance of this Library is a mutilated statue,

as large as life, of Greek sculpture, which was formerly placed in the wall of the castle at Gozo.

After having noticed all that these two Libraries contain, you may cross over to look at the building made use of for the Chief Secretary's Office, the Post Office and Government Treasury. From here you may proceed to the Auberge d' Auvergne, appropriated for the Civil Courts, Tribunals of Appeal and of Commerce, and then

XLIII. REPOSE.

After having rested a little, we will pass over to inspect

XLIV. ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

This august temple, built by the Grand Master La Cassiera, is the most beautiful, the most spacious, and most interesting church in the island.

The excellent paintings with which it is adorned are principally by the celebrated Matteo Preti, known by the name of Cala-

brese. This famous painter is interred before the sacristy; upon whose tombstone is inscribed an elegant epitaph in the latin language.

This temple is rendered more magnificent by the many elegant and very costly mausoleums of the Grand Masters, and the superb tombstones in mosaic, with which nearly the whole is paved. Amongst the many engraved monuments here to be seen, the lovers of epitaph may find sufficient to satisfy their curiosity.

XLV. PAINTINGS IN ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

The grand arched ceiling was painted by the Cav. Calabrese, and represents the principal occurrences which are related in the life of the Precursor of Christ, and several other interesting scenes, a work which took thirteen years to complete.

The side paintings and the three in the roof of the chapel of the Crucifixion, those at the altars of St. James and St. George,

the one at the entrance to the altar of the Sacrament in the interior part, the paintings of the conversion of St. Paul and St. Catherine of Alexandria, and that of the Saints Cosmus and Damian, were all executed by the often mentioned Cav. Calabrese.

The celebrated painting of the beheading of St. John the Baptist, in the of the Crucifixion, is the work of Michaelangelo of Caravaggio.

The paintings of the SS. Girolamo and Maddalena are said to be by the same author, but in reality they are but copies. The paintings at the first altar on the left hand as you enter the church, are by Stefano Erardi a Maltese.

The three half moons at the entrance of the chapel of the Crucifixion are a work of the Cav. Favray, and the portraits of the Grand Master Pinto and Pope Benedict XIV, in the first sacristy, are by the same hand.

The two half moons at the altar of St. Sebastian, on the left hand side, are the work of Giuseppe di Arena, a Maltese.

The painting of S. Carlo is the performance of the Cav. Sebastiano Conca-da-Gaeta.

In the choir there is a small portrait, the work of Andrea del Sarto.

The tapestry with which this admirable structure is splendidly adorned surpasses all that imagination can conceive. This article, made at an expense of several thousand pounds, was presented as a gift to this church, by the Grand Master Perellos.

From the left hand side of the grand altar, you descend into an under chapel, where the Grand Masters of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem are interred. On the tombstone of the Grand Master Valletta, is engraved the following elegant epitaph, composed by the learned English Cavalier Oliver Starquei.

*Ille Asiæ, Libyæque pavor, tutelaque quondam
Europæ, edomitæ sacra per arma Getis,
Primus in hæc alma, quam condidit, Urbe sepultus
Valletta, æterno dignus honore jacet.*

From St. John's church we may repair to the Monte di Pietà and the ancient office of the Giurati now the office of the Grain Department, and from thence to the Palace formerly called of the

XLVI. CASTELLANIA.

In this public edifice is held the Criminal Court, the Courts of the Magistrates of judicial police, and also the office of the Deputy Inspector General of Executive Police. From the Castellania we may cross over to the church of St. James, to view the very excellent painting, the principal work of Filippo Paladini. From thence we may proceed to the

XLVII. ALBERGO DI CASTIGLIA, OR

AUBERGE OF CASTILE.

The external appearance of this immense building is striking and the architecture is rather majestic.

Near the Albergo di Castiglia, is the church called

**XLVIII. SANTA CATARINA DEGL' ITALIANI, OR
ST. CATHERINE OF THE ITALIANS.**

The principal painting, in this church is that representing St. Catherine, a good original by the Cav. Calabrese.

The side painting of the "Vergine Adolorata," is a delicate work of the Cav. Benedetto Luti Bolognese.

Opposite this church you will find another called

XLIX. CHIESA DELLA VITTORIA.

The ceiling of this church is painted by Alessio Erardi son of the before-mentioned Stefano.

A little further on is the bastion called the

L. BARRACCA,

a kind of parterre where several monuments are erected to the memory of illustrious personages deceased, and where the ashes of the late GOVERNOR MAITLAND repose in a secluded part.

The view from this place is very extensive and beautiful, and as it commands the great harbour and its creeks, the sight of the vessels of every size that are anchored therein, the three towns which are directly opposite, the forts that defend the port, (apparently touching each other,) the Vill-hena suburbs, as also a great part of the country that is seen from this eminence, all render the Barracca the most pleasant place of resort, which the city affords.

From the Barracca you may go round the city walls as far as Porta Reale;* the walk is interesting and very pleasant, from the fine country view which presents itself from the walls. The passenger being arrived over Porta Reale can descend into the street from which this gate takes its name, viz.

LI. STRADA REALE,*

where the first interesting object that will attract notice, is the Ordnance Office with its several branches.

* Porta signifies *gate*, and Strada, *street*.

The expert mechanics who labour here and the skill exercised in its management, render this establishment one of great importance.

From the Ordnance Office, the Passenger may proceed to the

LII. ALBERGO DI PROVENZA.

The lower apartments of this Palace are appropriated for the sale of goods by public auction, the Deputy Vendue Master's Office, &c. and the upper apartments to the use of the Malta Union Club.

In front of the Albergo di Provenza is the

LIII. STUDY OF THE ARCHITECT SIGNOR GRONGNET.

This very capable engineer preserves in lithography the form of a stone which is said to be antediluvian, found at Città Vecchia, and which he afterwards sent to Paris for trial of its antiquity. The inscription

engraved on this stone has been translated into Latin, and is as follows :

“ Ego Athalanta urbs parva, quæ me
 “ extollo in summitate hac altiore Montis
 “ Athlantis, qui stat in medio hujus In-
 “ sulæ magnæ Regis Athlantis qui me ædi-
 “ ficavit in septimo gyro solis gubernationis
 “ suæ et in secundo solis gyro Dominationis
 “ Manetis primi Regis Terræ Fontis Gupti
 “ (*id est Alti Ægypti*) de Flumine magno.
 “ De hac eminentia ego video gyros lumino-
 “ sos Deorum Cœlestium; video magnam et
 “ pulcram urbem caput Insulæ totius, video
 “ Domum Atreæ Patris magni Neptuni,
 “ et Sylvam sacram quæ circitit eam; video
 “ tres illas Columnas Herculis in freto Ma-
 “ ris Regis Gadii, Domini hortorum pulcro-
 “ rum, ubi cadit sol, et pomorum aureorum,
 “ et Insulam Cyrenæam; video Insulas om-
 “ nes, ubi habitant Dii maris, video naves
 “ omnes quæ deambulant in sinu maris in-
 “ terioris atque exterioris, et Terram Regis
 “ Saturni, et nomen meum non videbit finem,

“ antequam compleantur gyri magni solis.”

There is also another inscription on the side in Latin, viz.

T. SEMPRON. COS. HOC. MAGNI. ATHLANTIS.
ET. SOVBMERSAE. ATHLANTIDIS. RELI-
QVIOM. VEDIT. EIDEMQ. SERVARI.
COERAVIT. AN. UR. DXXXVI.

OLYMP. CXL. AN. III.

Mr. Grongnet foreseeing, that the metropolis of the Ottoman Empire might by some accident be destroyed by fire, has formed the plan of a new city, which has been approved of, and met the approbation of all those who have examined it.

There are other very valuable works in the study of Mr. Grongnet, not only of architecture but also of literature, on profound subjects, that are as yet incomplete. Mr. Grongnet is a person of very agreeable manners, and the traveller will feel much pleased with his company and conversation.

From Grongnet's study, you may proceed to the painting study of Mr. Allingham, where the amateurs of portraits will find many to admire.

Leaving this study we may continue our walk down Strada San Giovanni as far as

LIV. STRADA FORNI.

The building that serves for the public bakery, and the convent of St. Agostino, which is directly opposite, are worthy of observation. Passing along Strada Forni it may not be unentertaining to the passenger (at the termination of this street to the south) to look at

LV. STRADA MEZZODI.

In this street there are several large dwellings or palaces, and particularly that appropriated to the residence of the British Admiral, and another for the office of the Commissariat, and residence of the Commissary General.

From Strada Mezzodi, he may go upon the bastion, where the remains of the late Governor the MARQUESS OF HASTINGS, are interred, and from thence to the wind mills to enjoy the sight of all Marsamuscetto harbour and the surrounding country.

From the wind mills, he may descend to the

**LV. PAINTING STUDY AND LITHOGRAPHY OF
MR. CARUANA,**

who uses his utmost endeavours to render himself perfect in his art.

Leaving the study of Mr. Caruana and proceeding along the bastions of Marsamuscetto, he will arrive at

LVII. FORT ST. ELMO,

one of the principal fortifications of the island, built in the year 1552. This fort is the principal means of defence to both harbours and is well supplied with cannon, bombs, and other pieces of artillery. We will not, however, try the patience of the

curious observer, by a minute description of the forts large and small, batteries, mortars, cannons, balls &c. of a fortress, which is perhaps furnished the best of any in Europe.

Having observed this fort and its fortifications, he may go and see the hospitals, which are at a little distance from the fort.

The propriety and decency of these places is particularly noticeable. A wealthy lady by name of Signora Catarina Scoppi Senese, bequeathed the females' hospital to the public; which was built in the year 1646.

After visiting the hospitals, he may continue his walk through Strada Mercanti in which are two churches worthy of attention, viz.

One called *delle Anime*, and the other *di S. Domenico*. It would not be uninteresting to pass from Strada Mercanti into Strada San Paolo, to notice that collegiate church, where the following paintings are to be seen :

The principal painting which represents

S. Paul after being shipwrecked, is the work of Paladino.

The two paintings are by the Painter Belasques.

There is also an excellent wooden statue representing St. Paul preaching, a work of Melchion Gafa.

Continuing along the said street, he may deviate a little to the left to look at the church of the *Riformati*, situated in Strada San Giovanni, called

LVIII. DI SANTA MARIA DI GESU'.

The principal painting in this church representing St. Francesco and St. Catherine, is by Paladino.

Over one of the altars, is a painting of St. Trophimus in company with St. Paul and the Centurion, visiting the father of Publius, executed by Morrealese.

After the passenger has seen the whole of the beforementioned, he may proceed to inspect the sculptural works, finely executed

by several Maltese artists, in Malta-stone; and if he chuses he may also visit the Theatre, which, if not a magnificent edifice, merits however to be seen.

LIX. REPOSE.

After repose, we will accompany the passenger in his visits to the other principal forts, and consequently conduct him to

LX. MARSAMUSCETTO OR
THE QUARANTINE HARBOUR.

Prior to embarking we may see the Health Office, as also that of the Captain of the Port, and then take a boat and pass over to

LXI. FORT MANOEL.

This fort was erected by the Grand Master Antonio Manoel in 1726, as may be seen by a long inscription engraved in the square pedestal that supports the bronze statue of that Grand Master.

Re-embarking, we go from Fort Manoel

to Fort Tigne, and from thence embarking anew pass across the mouth of both harbours, to Fort Ricasoli (built by Signor Ricasoli of Florence) and afterwards proceed to the Grand Fortress called

LXII. CASTEL SANT' ANGELO.

This fortification that defends the entrance of the Great Harbour, is striking, and of those which now remain, was the first that was built in the island. It is said to have been erected by the Saracens in the year 828.

Having noticed all the beforementioned fortifications, we shall land at the Custom-House to see, not only that building but the *Mina* through which we pass from one mole to the other. This passage was opened by the Grand Master Lascaris in 1687.

Afterwards we will proceed along that part of the mole of Florian (the whole of which is adorned with very commodious magazines) and go up to that town to rest ourselves.

LXIII. FLORIANA.

We will first take a walk in the beautiful public Botanical Garden, planted by the late GOVERNOR BALL which is exceedingly pleasant.

From this garden we will pass to the House of Industry, where excellent carpets and various other articles are manufactured particularly of cotton and of silk.

This house was established and is supported by Government, and is a very useful institution. The object of it, is to afford a place and accommodations for the poor, both old men and women and children. The children are taught useful work and gain habits of industry, and the old people in part support themselves by making brooms and other light work.

From the House of Industry we may go to the Military Hospital, an establishment that ought not to be overlooked.

LXIV. ENGLISH BURYING GROUNDS.

The man who feels! He who profoundly

reflects! He who seriously meditates! in short every man of feeling will visit the places where repose the remains of fellow men.

In these burial grounds are to be seen a great many monuments and tombstones on which are described the names and merits of the deceased, in memory of whom they were erected, their age, and the day of their demise. These are frequently accompanied by some appropriate verse, and are several of them considerably elegant.

These are the places that ought to be visited in preference to all others.

From these we may go to the church of St. Publius, and from thence to the Capuchin's Convent, which on account of its situation is very interesting.

Returning from this convent, we go to see the garden called d'Argotti where is a grotto in the form of a small temple, set with three beautiful varieties of coral.

This small circuit being ended, it will not be unentertaining to the passenger to

observe the fortifications of Florian so called as they were constructed under the direction of Pietro Paolo Floriani in 1635.

Likewise the gate named

LXV. DELLE BOMBE

merits to be seen, because instead of pillars it has four large stone columns cut in the form of guns, and over the gate three shields of nobility.

On two pillars a little without the gate, are also two large stone balls representing bomb-shells.

We may pass from thence to observe the grand arch much esteemed by connoisseurs, near Sa Maison, and then return to Valletta and

LXVI. REPOSE.

The circuit of Valletta and Floriana being terminated, let us pass over to observe what is most remarkable in the three towns on the opposite side, that is to say, Borgo, Burmola and Isola.

Embarking at the barriera, the first place we proceed to visit, is the

LXVII. NAVAL VICTUALLING YARD, OR
ARSENALE DEL BORGO.

It hardly need be said that this establishment is completely furnished with every thing which appertains to this department, when you reflect that it belongs to Great Britain, which is the first maritime power in the world.

From the Victualling Yard, we will proceed to look at the place where is supposed anciently to have stood the celebrated temple of the goddess Juno. Not a vestige, however, now exists of that renowned fabric; and the passenger will observe nothing interesting except a ditch full of salt water that divides Fort Sant Angelo from Vittoriosa or Borgo.

From the place where formerly existed the temple of Juno, he may go to the parish church called

LXVIII. SAN LORENZO.

The principal painting, representing the martyrdom of that Saint, is the performance of the before mentioned Cav. Calabrese.

From the church of San Lorenzo, he may go and see the Greek chapel where are deposited the hat and sword of the Grand Master La Valletta.

In a square near this chapel, is a statue of Victory, erected by this Grand Master in commemoration of the defeat of the Turks on that spot.

The passenger may then proceed to observe the

LXIX. NAVAL HOSPITAL,

an establishment very interesting and situated in a delightful spot.

From the Naval Hospital, he may proceed towards Burmola.

We do not find anything of importance in this town excepting the grand suburb, enclosed by the

LXX. COTTONERA FORTIFICATIONS.

This vast citadel, erected by the Grand Master Cottoner in 1670, that surrounds from the east part the whole of the suburbs of Burmula, merits observation. We may visit the principal church entitled

LXXI. DELLA CONCEZIONE.

From Burmula, we will walk towards Senglea or Isola, and in our way thither observe the other great Naval Arsenal or

LXXII. DOCK YARD.

In this arsenal are spacious magazines provided with all that is requisite, and which for their extent excite surprise. On a bastion adjoining the bottom of this arsenal is an instrument commonly called

LXXIII. THE SHEERS, OR LA MACIGNA,

the use of which is for unshipping and shipping the masts of vessels of war of any size or burthen.

From here we may proceed to the principal church in Isola, called

LXXIV. DELLA NATIVITA' DELLA VERGINE.

The circuit of the three towns being completed, we will embark for Valletta and there

LXXV. REPOSE.

Interior part of the Island.

The traveller having now visited all the most interesting places in the city of Valletta and its suburbs, may proceed to observe what is most remarkable and important in other parts of the island.

LXXVI. MIDDLE CIRCUIT.

Passing through Porta Reale, and from thence through the gate called *delle Bombe*, he will advance on the road called San Giuseppe, towards Città Notabile or Città Vecchia.

It is interesting to observe for an immense distance of road, the aqueduct by

means of which the City Valletta is supplied with fresh water.

The Grand Master Wignacourt directed the performance of this stupendous piece of workmanship, the expense of which was paid from the public treasury. From the place where the water begins to spring called *Diar Chandul*, to the square or Piazza of St. George, in Valletta where there are two fountains, is a distance of seven thousand four hundred and seventy eight canes of eight palms to a cane of Malta measure, or about nine and a half English miles.

The passenger will pass through Casal Attard where there is nothing of consequence to be observed and from thence he will arrive at

LXXVII. NOTABILE OR CITTA' VECCHIA.

The principal church of this very ancient city is entitled a cathedral. The paintings which adorn it are almost all executed by the Cav. Calabrese, but the ceiling is by

Manni, all in fresco. In the choir is a painting of the Virgin Mary, the work of Sassoferrata. The architecture is by Gafa, a Maltese.

From the cathedral, he may proceed to the church of the Benedictines, the principal painting in which is by the Cav. Calabrese, and merits to be seen.

From this church, he may go to the ancient Senatorial Palace, in which there are two large frames of marble, that were found in an ancient temple at no great distance from the City, and which are worthy of notice.

The Seminary also merits some attention.

On leaving the city, the traveller will feel much gratified on noticing Rabato or the suburbs, and from thence to proceed to the

LXXVIII. CATACOMBS.

These subterraneous places are very extensive, and have several streets in various

directions, and it is asserted that many persons have been lost in having imprudently ventured too far in, which is not at all improbable when we consider these very intricate and wonderful vaults.

In consequence of these accidents this crooked way was some time since filled up, by order of Government, so that now no danger exists of being lost, while assisted by candles.

The sepulchres which are here to be seen, are of various sizes, and the sides of the passages, together with the rooms to which they lead, are mostly covered with the vaults designed, as is probable, for the bodies of the dead.

These subterraneous works are from twelve to fifteen feet below the surface of the rock where they are cut, and it is necessary to have a guide to shew them, and at the same time you are furnished with candles or torches, it being impossible to descend into them without lights.

Leaving the catacombs, the passenger may proceed to

LXXIX. ST. PAUL'S CAVE.

Previous to entering this cave, there is a little chapel which is situated under the church dedicated to St. Paul and deserving of observation.

The statue of the Saint, being the work of the Cav. Bernini, a Roman sculptor, is worth seeing.

It is asserted by the Maltese that, notwithstanding the quantities of stone which are taken from this cave by travellers and other persons whose curiosity leads them to see it, the stone never diminishes, and that the said stone has the property of curing various disorders.

From St. Paul's cave, he may go to the monastery of St. Domenico, an edifice of simple architecture, but of a very majestic appearance. Not very far distant from this convent, is a delightful garden called the

LXXX. BOSCHETTO.

The trees planted in this place are of a larger size than any others in the island and of a different sort, some producing fruit and others not; which render it a most delightful spot. They are disposed with art and regularity, and the canals that water the whole of the garden, considering the situation of the place, produce an admirable effect.

Continuing the walk, the traveller may go to the

LXXXI. GREAT FOUNTAIN, OR INQUISITOR'S PALACE.

A very pleasing and charming place, but further on there is no object that merits any particular attention; consequently, he may return by the same road to Città Notabile. From this city, he may proceed to the spot called

LXXXII. EMTARFA,

where the ruins of the temple of Proserpine are to be seen, and which every antiquarian

does not omit visiting. Proceeding further on, he will arrive at the place called

LXXXIII. BINGEMMA,

where are almost one hundred sepulchral caverns, and although the greater part of them are at present covered over, the place appears to have been some ancient city destroyed by the hand of time.

In these caverns are to be seen very beautiful tombs, having one part made particularly to receive the feet, and on the opposite extremity another for the head to rest in.

Returning towards Valletta, the passenger may pass through

LXXXIV. CASAL MUSTA,

and from this village to

LXXXV. CASAL LIA.

This village is handsome and populous, the air extremely salubrious, and the appearance of the church is rather majestic.

The painting of the Transfiguration of our Saviour, in this church, is by the Cav. Calabrese.

The suburbs of Casal Lia are exceedingly handsome and delightful, and consequently are highly esteemed. In these environs is the

LXXXVI. VILLA PREZIOSI.

The palace of this Villa is of excellent workmanship, and the garden is diligently taken care of, and resembles in some degree, the beautiful garden of Tuscany.

The actual possessor, Mr. Mackenzie, director of the public works in the island, has adorned the rooms of this palace with superb paintings; that representing S. Cecilia is one of the most excellent that are to be found in the island. From Casal Lia, the traveller may pass to

LXXXVII. SANT' ANTONIO GARDENS.

This garden is one of the most pleasant, bearing flowers and fruits of every kind in

great abundance; the waters, the canals, the conduits &c. &c. render it delightful in the extreme. The palace is very beautiful, and in short St. Antonio is the country seat of His Excellency the GOVERNOR; and there is no traveller, either foreigner or otherwise, who comes to the island, that does not go to see it.

From St. Antonio, he may return by the great road near St. Giuseppe to Valletta, and

LXXXVIII. REPOSE.

Left Circuit.

Embarking at the mole, the traveller may land at Bormola to pass on to

LXXXIX. CASAL ZABBAR,

the principal church of which village should not be overlooked.

Proceeding onwards he will arrive at

XC. CASAL ZEITUN,

one of the finest and most populous villages in the island, the principal church of

which is a temple the most interesting in all the country places of Malta, wherein is a painting representing St. Catherine, a work of the Cav. Calabrese.

From Casal Zeitun, at a little distance from the Bay of Marsa-scirocco, the ruins of the ancient temple of Hercules are observable, but there is little or nothing there to be admired. Descending a little is the Bay aforesaid, which is defended by the fort St. Luciano, and by other redoubts and batteries.

The fort is well designed, and was erected in the time of the Grand Master Wignacourt in the year 1610.

Ascending he may pass through

XCI. CASAL ASCIACH,

and from this village to

XCII. CASAL GUDIA,

where the Marchioness Moscati possesses a garden much admired, and which travellers are pleased to visit.

From here the passenger can proceed to

XCIII. CASAL CHIRCOP.

and from thence to

XCIV. CASAL ZURRICO.

This is also one of the largest villages in the island. The principal church is handsome and the painting of St. Catherine that adorns it is also a performance of the Cav. Calabrese. From this casal he may go to

XCV. CRENDI.

Near this village, is the place called

XCVI. MACLUBBA.

Here may be observed a chasm in the rock which forms a plain of a circular figure. Its greatest depth is one hundred and forty-two canes and its greatest diameter fifty-two canes or thereabout.

A garden rather fertile than otherwise, has been made at the bottom of this chasm.

From Crendi, he may pass to

XC VII. CASAL MYCABBA,
and from thence to

XC VIII. CASAL LUCA,
which will take him to the Marsa to see the
ruins of

XC IX. CASAL PAULA,
a village erected by the Grand Master of that
name, but deserted in consequence of the
insalubrious air. From this spot he may re-
turn to Valletta and

C. REPOSE.
West Circuit.

The traveller leaving Porta Reale, may
go to the

CI. PIETA',
a place much resorted to in the summer sea-
son and where the gentry in general are pleased
at times to appoint horse races for the en-
tertainment of the public.

At this place also there are not only
salt water but fresh water baths, and hotels
with moderate accommodations.

From the Pietà, he may go on to

CII. CASAL BIRCHIRARA,

which is also one of the best villages in the island. The principal church named St. Elena is worthy of observation, wherein there is a painting of that Saint by Zakra.

From this casal, he may go up to

CIII. CASAL NASCIAR,

the former inhabitants of which are said to have been the first who received baptism.

He may then go to the salt pits and from thence to

CIV. ST. PAUL'S BAY,

and afterwards to the garden called

CV. SELMONE,

and from thence to

CVI. MELLEHA.

A church much frequented and situated in a place not at all displeasing, is to be found here. Not far distant from this church is the

CVII. GROTTTO OF CALYPSO.

The celebrated Fenelon has described this grotto of the goddess in a most masterly style, therefore we cannot do more, than to refer the reader to the history of Telemachus for every information, as from so able a writer he will be enabled to form an idea of the grotto which has so much merited encomiums.*

Having examined the grotto, the traveller may pass over to the islands of Comino and Gozo, or return by the same road to Valletta.

N. B.—The villages which are not mentioned in this description, will be found out of the rout we have pursued, and do not merit our consideration. At a little distance from Valletta there is a pleasant place called St. Julian's, where many of the English and Maltese gentry possess country houses and gardens truly worthy of being seen.

* See Part Third, where a cave is described which has been erroneously considered to have been the Grotto of Calypso.

Distances from Valletta, of the places and villages of the island of Malta, by the public roads.

	Ital. miles.		Ital. miles.
Città Vecchia.	7½	Lia	4½
Boschetto.	8	Micabba.	5¼
Birchircara.	3¼	Crendi.	6½
Nasciar.	4¾	St. Luca.	3¾
Curmi	3	Tarscien.	2¾
Gudia.	4¼	Asciac	4
Zeitun	4	Chercop.	4¾
Zurricco.	6	Safi.	5½
Siggieui.	6	Gargur.	4½
Zebbug.	5	Zabbar.	2½
Attard.	4½	Balzan.	4
St. Antonio	4½	Dingli.	8¼
Musta.	6		

Places on the sea-coast of Malta and Gozo from the point of St. Elmo.

Point Dragut	0¾	Selmonetto.	8½
St. Julian's.	2½	Ayn Chadit	9¼
Point St. George } called Dragoniera }	3½	Point tal Ahrasc	10½
Point Irchieca	4¼	Tower tal Ahrasc	12
Madalena	5¼	Point Marfa	15
		Migiarro in Gozo	18½

Bay of St. Marco.	$5\frac{3}{4}$	{	Salino.	7
Hallis.	$6\frac{1}{4}$		Chamn.	$7\frac{1}{2}$

Toward the South-East.

St. Tomaso.	$4\frac{1}{2}$	{	Munsciar.	5
Point Ricasoli	$0\frac{1}{2}$		Delimara.	6
Schiajra	2	{	Benhisa	$8\frac{1}{4}$
Marsa-scala or Zoncor.	$3\frac{3}{4}$		Point Hemelk.	31

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&c. &c. &c.

PART III.

Gozo and Comino.

THE traveller, having observed the most interesting places and objects, (to our knowledge), in the island of Malta, it will not be disagreeable to him to make an excursion to the islands of Comino and Gozo, the latter of which merits the most accurate attention.

To make the trip as short as possible, he may proceed by land to the Marfa, and there embark for

CVIII. COMINO.

This small island was formerly called *Ephestia*.

It is about five miles in circumference. A fort erected by the Grand Master Wignacourt in 1618, called *Freo*, defends the channel. It was constructed according to the design of the Maltese engineer Fra Vittorio Cassar, and is deserving of notice.

The island of Comino is almost all cultivated, and an abundance of game, particularly quails, is here to be met with, at certain seasons of the year.

From Comino, he may pass over to Gozo; a distance of about one mile, where he will land at a place called Migiarro.

CIX. GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ISLAND OF GOZO.

The island of Gozo is thirty miles in circumference; its greatest length twelve, and its greatest breadth six miles and a half. Under the Romans it was a *municipium*, enjoyed its own lands, and at various periods coined money. It was afterwards, however, subjected to the possessors of Malta.

There are in the island of Gozo, besides *Rabbato*, which is the suburb of the ancient city and which is at present the capital, six other villages or casals, viz. *Gharb*, *Nadur*, *Caccia*, *Sannat*, *Sciëuchia* and *Zebbug*.

CX. MIGIARRO.

The passenger having landed at Migiarro, as before stated, will observe a fort called by that name, erected in the year 1605, the cost of which was paid from a fund which the Grand Master Garzes bequeathed at his death, for that specific object. The situation in which this fort is built, renders it particularly interesting.

Continuing the walk towards Rabbato, and not far distant from Migiarro, is the

CXI. FORT CHAMBRAY,

which the Bailiff of this name, a Norman, commenced building at his own expense, in 1749; and which was completed after his death at the expense of the order of St. John.

This is the most important fortress in the island. Proceeding by the same road,

he will arrive at Casal Caccia. It is necessary, however, to deviate a little on his way thither, to see the reputed

CXII. GROTTO OF CALYPSO.

This grotto has been already described as found near Melleha, in the island of Malta. A small quantity of petrified water, in one part of the cave, is all that is to be seen in this place, although every possible endeavour has been made, to render it celebrated. Nothing now remains that presents any marks of antiquity, except the cave itself, or that has been able to attract any special observation or consideration.

If the nymphs of that time selected such habitations, we shall be induced to believe that it was only the *penitent* among them.

From here, the traveller may go to the

CXIII. TORRE DEI GIGANTI, OR

GIANT'S TOWER.

The ruins of this huge edifice awaken the idea of the most remote antiquity.

Enormous pieces of rocks piled one upon another, without any sort of cement, show, that this building was raised by the primitive inhabitants of the island. These ruins are well worthy of the attention of the intelligent observer of antiquity. From the Giant's Tower, he may return to the main road, which leads to Rabbato, where on his arrival, he will find a new hotel, situated in the square, where he may

CXIV. REPOSE.

Leaving the hotel, or any other place where he has refreshed himself, the traveller may visit the

CXV. ANCIENT CASTLE,

which is believed to have been erected by the Phœnicians, although it has since been repaired. It is merely interesting on account of its antiquity.

But the view which may be enjoyed from the walls of this castle (as it commands nearly the whole of the island) is striking and very pleasant.

Within the walls of the castle, is the principal church, entitled

CXVI. ASSUNZIONE DELLA BEATA VERGINE.

The baptismal font of this church, is formed of a piece of yellow alabaster, found in certain parts of the island. The painting at the main altar and the two side paintings, are by Busutill, a Maltese.

The false cupola of the church was painted by Antonio Pippi, a Sicilian.

The painting of St. Francesco di Paola, is a work of Nicolo Buhagiar, a Maltese.

In various parts of the castle are to be seen pieces of marble, columns, capitals, and other objects of the most remote antiquity.

Descending from the castle, he will return to Rabbato, and may visit the

CXVII. HOSPITAL DI S. GIO. BATTISTA,
destined for males only. The design of this building is good, the order of the rooms convenient, and the patients are treated with much attention.

This establishment was formed in 1719, at the expense of a certain Giammaria Camilleri.

From this Hospital, he may proceed to the

CXVIII. BURYING GROUND, OR CIMITERIO
DI S. AGOSTINO,

which is worthy of much attention, to inspect the tombstones and their inscriptions.

The epitaphs, although not very grammatical, are in substance interesting. One of these is as follows :

Galli hanc Gaulos insulam imperantes
Anno Domini ciccclxx ne sacra ossa
Praesulum, ac virorum illustrium
Qui cum S. Ludovico.

Francorum Rege, Profecti,
Ac ab Africa post Bellum Sacrum
Heic translata oblivioni darent
Hoc sacrum Coemeterium Erexere,
In quo singulis Lapides Sepolcrales
Anaglyphis Distinctos

Propriis insigniis decoratas posuere

Ill. Ac. Rev. D. Paulus Alpheran de Bussan

Melitæ Episcopus

Qui hunc dormitionis locum visitavit

Anno MDCCCLV M. Sept. die XVI.

Ut reliquæ ex maximo numero

Lapides vetustiores,

insignioresq. inventæ omnibus pateant

E: conserventur,

Heic Aere proprio apponi jussit.

Also the female hospital and the churches of St. Agostino, St. Francesco and St. Giorgio, are worthy of observation, especially the paintings in the latter. These are as follows: viz.

The principal painting, by the Cav. Calabrese.

The two side paintings, by Francesco Zahra a Maltese.

The resurrection of Lazarus, by Stefano Erardi.

Having noticed the most remarkable objects in the Castle, and in Rabbato, the traveller may proceed by the street San Gregorio, to the garden called

CXIX. TA SURGENT.

Here are to be seen the remains of an ancient bath, the walls of which are of a long square figure, and form an object worthy of much attention.

A little farther on, from the bath, were formerly various sepulchres which are now covered and no longer to be seen. These were situated between pillars in the shape of so many chapels; and at Gozo, opinions prevail that they were originally designed for the sepulchres of great personages of the island.

Not far distant from this place, in a garden called

CXX. DELL' ANNUNZIATA,

is to be seen a grotto wherein are petrifications of shells &c.

One of the most remarkable curiosities in Gozo, is the fungus called, *Fungus Melitensis*; therefore the traveller without returning to Rabbato through this garden, may proceed to the high road which leads to

CXXI. TA DUEYRA.

Here is a rock washed on all sides by the sea and which in the language of the country is called *Hagiret el General*, on which the fungus is found. The rock is inaccessible except by means of a little carriage or box, supported by two strong ropes on which it is made to pass over a great chasm by the man who has charge of the place, or is drawn to and fro by the persons passing.

A large cavity appears in the middle of the rock, extending from one side to the other, which makes the centre of the rock appear like a rude arch.

The fungus that grows on this rock, is a corroborative astringent medicine, and is used with success in all cases of over-flowings of the blood. It sprouts in the month of March, and ripens in June.

CXXII. THE METHOD OF USING IT.

The fungus must be washed very clean, put into an earthen pot and tied well down,

then put into an oven not overheated, and baked a little; then pounded in a marble mortar till it is reduced to a very fine powder, and then passed through a fine sieve; which the patient must take in convenient doses, infused in good wine.

The lizards found on this rock are of a vermilion colour, and of unusual size.

The circuit by land being terminated, the traveller is advised to go round the island of Gozo by water. A boat with four oars, in fine weather, will make the circuit in about eight or ten hours, allowing a little time for examination of the caves and other curiosities.

This will not only be an excursion of pleasure, but extremely interesting. The immense perpendicular rocks, some of them apparently 200 or 250 yards in height, deep grottos and caverns of various descriptions, in some of which the waves of the sea entering and returning make a pleasant but

grum and melancholy noise; the tracks of wheels, which leave the island, in the direction of Malta and Africa, and disappear in the sea; will induce the observer to reflect seriously, whether the three islands of which we are speaking, did not once consist of but one island, much more extensive than what any writer has proposed.

Can it be possible that Malta, Comino and Gozo are the remains of the ancient Athalanta?

Distances of Places on the sea-coast of Gozo from Migiarro.

Ital. miles. {		Ital. mile
Point Ras el Cala	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	{ Scilendi Bay . . . 16 Scini Bay 20
Marsa el forno . .	6	
St. Dimitri	12	

Scini, in the opposite direction, is two miles from Migiarro.

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